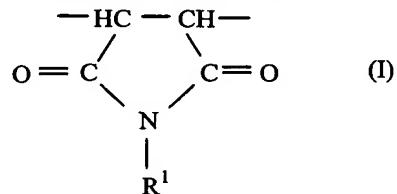


CLAIMS

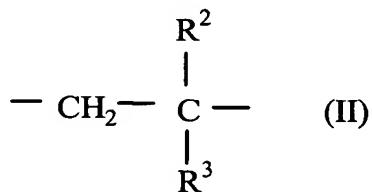
1. A stretched film (X) obtained from a resin composition by melt-extrusion casting followed by stretching at least in one direction,

5 (1) the resin composition containing a maleimide-olefin copolymer (A) having 40 to 60 mol% of a recurring unit represented by the following formula (I),



10 wherein R^1 is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group,

and 60 to 40 mol% of a recurring unit represented by the following formula (II),



15 wherein each of R^2 and R^3 is independently a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms,

and an acrylonitrile-styrene copolymer (B) containing 21 to 45 % by weight of an acrylonitrile unit,

20 the resin composition having a copolymer (A) content of at least 50 % by weight but not more than 99 % by weight and a copolymer (B) content of at least 1 % by weight but not more than 50 % by weight,

(2) the stretched film (X) having a maximum retardation (Rp) at 550 nm in an in-plane direction, the maximum retardation satisfying the following expression,

$$10 \text{ nm} < \text{Rp} \leq 400 \text{ nm}$$

(3) the stretched film (X) having a retardation

(R_{th}) at 550 nm in the thickness direction, the retardation satisfying the following expression,

$$0 \text{ nm} < |R_{th}| \leq 400 \text{ nm}.$$

5 2. The stretched film of claim 1, wherein
(1-a) the resin composition has a copolymer (A) content of over 75 % by weight but not more than 99 % by weight and a copolymer (B) content of at least 1 % by weight but less than 25 % by weight,

10 (2-a) R_p satisfies the following expression,

$$10 \text{ nm} < R_p \leq 250 \text{ nm}$$

and

(3-a) R_{th} satisfies the following expression,
0 nm < |R_{th}| ≤ 400 nm.

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3. The stretched film of claim 1, wherein

(1-b) the resin composition has a copolymer (A) content of over 50 % by weight but not more than 65 % by weight and a copolymer (B) content of at least 35 % by weight but less than 50 % by weight,

20 (2-b) R_p satisfies the following expression,

$$10 \text{ nm} < R_p \leq 400 \text{ nm}$$

and

(3-b) R_{th} satisfies the following expression,
0 nm < |R_{th}| ≤ 400 nm.

25 4. The stretched film of claim 3, which satisfies the following expressions,

ny < nz < nx and

30 $0.3 \leq \{(nx - nz) / (nx - ny)\} \leq 0.9$,

wherein nx is a refractive index in an in-plane lagging axis direction at 550 nm,

ny is a refractive index in a direction perpendicular to the in-plane lagging axis at 550 nm,

and

nz is a refractive index in the thickness direction at 550 nm.

5 5. The stretched film of claim 1, which is a product by the stretching at a stretch ratio that satisfies the following expression,

$$R^{MD} > R^{TD} \text{ or } R^{TD} > R^{MD}$$

10 wherein R^{MD} is a stretch ratio in the machine direction and R^{TD} is a stretch ratio in the transverse direction.

6. The stretched film of claim 5, wherein $|R^{MD}/R^{TD}|$ or $|R^{TD}/R^{MD}|$ is in the range of over 1.0 but not more than 5.0.

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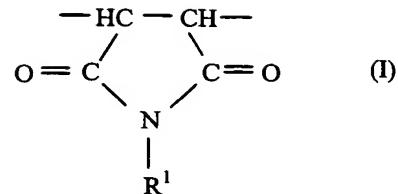
7. The stretched film of claim 1, which is a biaxially stretched film.

8. The stretched film of claim 1, which has one or 20 less coarse streaked projection having a height of 10 μm or more, a width of 0.3 mm or more and a length of 5 cm or more, per meter of width in the transverse direction of the stretched film.

25 9. The stretched film of claim 1, which has a water vapor permeability of 5 to 250 $\text{g}/(\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{day})$.

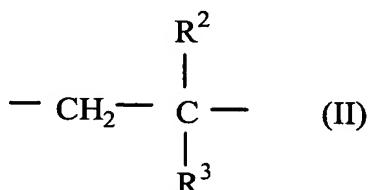
10. A process for the production of a stretched film, which comprises forming a film from a resin composition 30 by melt-extrusion casting and then stretching the film at least in one direction,

(1) the resin composition containing a maleimide-olefin copolymer (A) having 40 to 60 mol% of a recurring unit represented by the following formula (I),



wherein R¹ is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group.

- 5 and 60 to 40 mol% of a recurring unit represented by the
following formula (II),



wherein each of R² and R³ is independently a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

- 10

and an acrylonitrile-styrene copolymer (B) containing 21 to 45 % by weight of an acrylonitrile unit,

the resin composition having a copolymer (A) content of at least 50 % by weight but not more than 99 % by weight and a copolymer (B) content of at least 1 % by weight but not more than 50 % by weight,

(2) the film being stretched at a stretch ratio that satisfies the following expression,

$$R^{MD} > R^{TD} \text{ or } R^{TD} > R^{MD}$$

- 20 wherein R^{MD} is a stretch ratio in the machine direction and R^{TD} is a stretch ratio in the transverse direction.

11. The Process of claim 10, which the stretching is
25 carried out by biaxial stretching.

12. The process of claim 10, wherein $|R^{MD}/R^{TD}|$ or $|R^{TD}/R^{MD}|$ is in the range of over 1.0 but not more than 5.0.

13. The process of claim 10, wherein R^{MD} is in the range of 1.0 to 1.8 and R^{TD} is in the range of 1.5 to 3.5.

5 14. The process of claim 10, wherein the stretching is carried out at a stretching temperature (T_d) in the range of T_g to ($T_g + 40^\circ C$) in which T_g is a glass transition temperature of the resin composition, and at a stretching velocity of 5 to 5,000 %/minute.

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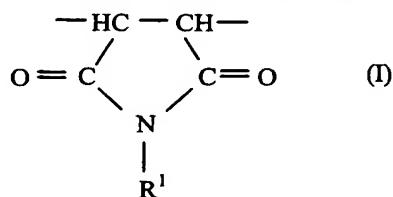
15. A laminated material comprising the stretched film (X) recited in claim 1 and a polarizer formed thereon.

15 16. The laminated material of claim 15, wherein the polarizer is formed from a polyvinyl alcohol containing iodine or an anisotropic dye.

17. The laminated material of claim 15, wherein a
20 film is further formed on the polarizer.

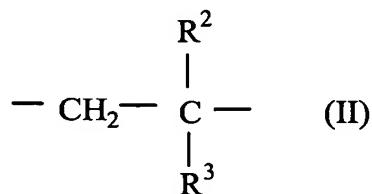
18. The laminated material of claim 15, wherein the film is a stretched film (Y) formed from a resin composition by melt-extrusion casting followed by
25 stretching at least in one direction,

(1-c) the resin composition containing a maleimide-olefin copolymer (A) having 40 to 60 mol% of a recurring unit represented by the following formula (I),



30 wherein R^1 is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a monovalent

aromatic hydrocarbon group,
and 60 to 40 mol% of a recurring unit represented by the
following formula (II),



5 wherein each of R^2 and R^3 is independently a
hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 6
carbon atoms,

and an acrylonitrile-styrene copolymer (B) containing 21
to 45 % by weight of an acrylonitrile unit,

10 the resin composition having a copolymer (A)
content of over 65 % by weight but less than 75 % by
weight and a copolymer (B) content of over 25 % by
weight but less 35 % by weight,

(2-c) the stretched film (Y) having a maximum
15 retardation (Rp) at 550 nm in an in-plane direction, the
maximum retardation satisfying the following expression,
 $\text{Rp} < 10 \text{ nm.}$

19. The laminated material of claim 15, which is a
20 sheet polarizer.

20. A liquid crystal display comprising a liquid
crystal cell and laminated materials of claim 15
arranged on both surfaces of the liquid crystal cell.